

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A CVD process for producing preforms for dispersion shifted optical ~~fiber~~ fibers or dispersion compensating optical ~~fiber~~ fibers having a core comprising a central portion, an inner cladding, a ring, and an outer cladding, by depositing layers, in which process the layers of said preform corresponding to said inner cladding and to said ring of said optical fiber have a phosphorus content in the range of 0.03 wt% to 0.1 wt%~~not greater than 0.1 wt%~~, wherein said CVD process is a furnace chemical vapor deposition (FCVD) process.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (original): The optical fiber preform production process claimed in claim 1 wherein said layers of said preform corresponding to said outer cladding of said optical fiber have a phosphorus content in the same range of values as said layers of said preform corresponding to said inner cladding and to said ring of said optical fiber.

Claim 4 (original): The optical fiber preform production process claimed in claim 1 wherein said layers are deposited at a pressure within 20% of atmospheric pressure.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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Claim 5 (original): The optical fiber preform production process claimed in claim 1,
when said optical fiber is intended to be integrated into a submarine cable.